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(54) Title: **SPLICE VARIANTS OF ErbB LIGANDS, COMPOSITIONS AND USES THEREOF**

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of previously unknown ErbB ligands that are splice variants of previously known ErbB ligands, to compositions comprising these sequences and uses thereof in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases and disorders mediated by ErbB receptors. Specifically, the present invention relates to splice variants lacking the C-loop of an intact EGF domain.

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